

PATENT  
Docket: 24NORDAM4

In the Specification

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs being amended:

[0009] In U.S. Patent 6751944 ~~Application No. 10/274,653,~~  
~~filed 10/21/2002,~~ and entitled "Confluent Variable Exhaust  
Nozzle," assigned to the present assignee, an improved  
variable area exhaust nozzle is disclosed for a turbofan  
aircraft engine. The confluent nozzle includes outer and  
inner conduits, with a plurality of flaps therebetween. The  
flaps may be selectively opened to bypass a portion of  
exhaust flow from the inner conduit through the outer conduit  
in confluent exhaust streams from concentric main and  
auxiliary exhaust outlets.

[0030] The radially outer and inner skins 40,42 of the fan  
nacelle provide relatively thin sheet metal surfaces for  
bounding the secondary duct 48 contained radially  
therebetween. The outer skin 40 terminates at the secondary  
outlet 52. And, the inner skin 42 extends aft from the  
secondary outlet 52 ~~[[.]]~~ to terminate at the main outlet 46  
downstream therefrom, thusly exposing the aft portion of the  
inner skin to the surrounding environment.

[0033] In this configuration, the ambient freestream air  
32 ~~which~~ flows aft over the fan nacelle during aircraft  
flight operation, with a thin boundary layer in which the  
velocity of the freestream air transitions from zero attached  
to the nacelle to the correspondingly high velocity  
associated with movement of the engine through the ambient  
air.